

NOTES ON MIKANIA (COMPOSITAE) - II

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This, the second of a series on the genus Mikania (Compositae-Eupatorieae), describes one new species from Panama and clarifies the synonymy of a previously little known plant of Panama and Colombia.

MIKANIA WEDELII Holmes & McDaniel, sp. nov.

Herba volubilis; foliis ellipticis vel elliptico-ovatis acutis vel cuspidatis, 5-7 cm longis, 2-3.5 cm latis basi acutis, supra et subtus glabris; paniculis laxis, 15 cm longis, 7 cm latis; capitulis 4-5 mm longis; corollis 3-3.5 mm longis; dentibus limbi anguste triangularis; achaeniis ca 1-1.5 mm longis; pappi setis ca 30, 2.5-3 mm longis, barbellatis ad apicem crassum.

Twining vine, stems slender, terete, glabrous; internodes ca 10-12 cm long. Leaves elliptic to elliptic-ovate, ca 5-7 cm long and 2-3.5 cm wide, pinnate-reticulate, with four prominent lateral veins branching from midvein ca 1-2 cm from base, appearing parallel or slightly decurrent upon midvein prior to branching, after branching roughly parallel to the leaf margin, margins entire to slightly revolute, apices acute to somewhat short-cuspidate, bases acute, upper surfaces glabrous, moderately glandular, only major veins prominent, lower surfaces glabrous, glandular, veins clearly visible, petioles ca 2-3 cm long, glandular, lightly puberulent. Inflorescence an elongated and lax few headed open panicle, ca 15 cm long and 7 cm wide, ultimate segments somewhat corymbose-racemose, ca 4 cm long and 3 cm wide, branchlets somewhat angular to sulcate, puberulent with incurved hairs, slightly glandular, pedicels ca 3-5 mm long, glandular, puberulent with incurved hairs. Heads ca 4-5 mm long, exterior bracts attached well beneath heads (near middle of pedicels), linear to narrowly lanceolate, ca 3-4 mm long, glandular, especially toward the summit,

margins entire, apices rounded, puberulent, bases enlarged to somewhat gibbous. Corollas pale green, 3-3.5 mm long, lightly glandular, tube ca 2 mm long, throat slightly enlarged, lobes ca 0.5 mm long, narrowly triangular. Achene (immature) ca 1-1.5 mm long, brown, glandular, especially toward summit. Pappus bristles ca 30, white, ca 2.5-3 mm long, barbellate, thickened at the tips.

Holotype: PANAMA: Bocas del Toro: Old Bank Island, vicinity of Chiriqui Lagoon, February 8, 1941, H. von Wedel 2041 (MO).

Although the specimen here designated as the holotype of Mikania wedelii was cited under the original description of M. tysonii King & Robinson (King & Robinson, 1974), the two species appear to only superficially resemble each other. Nor does M. wedelii resemble any other species of Mikania known from Panama. Mikania tysonii is a small, decumbent plant with internodes ca 2-4 cm in length, leaves with rounded apices and cuneate bases, and petioles ca 0.5-1.5 cm long. Mikania wedelii is apparently a large slender stemmed twiner with internodes ca 10-15 cm long, with acute leaf-bases and apices, and with petioles ca 2-4 cm long. The venation pattern is also different, M. tysonii having major lateral veins branching and separating immediately at the base while M. wedelii has major lateral veins separating ca 1-2 cm from the base and decurrent or closely parallel to the midvein prior to branching. There are major differences in the inflorescence; M. tysonii has a many-headed, rather dense panicle, about as wide or wider than long, while M. wedelii has a few-headed, rather lax panicle, about twice as long as wide. The exterior bracts of M. tysonii are oblong and about one-half the length of the involucre; M. wedelii has a linear exterior bract about as long or slightly longer than the involucre. Mikania tysonii has involucre that are not enlarged at the base, while those of M. wedelii are distinctly enlarged or gibbous. The corolla of M. tysonii is white, that of M. wedelii is pale green. In addition, M. tysonii has pappus bristles numbering ca 50 and not thickened at the tips, while M. wedelii has ca 30 pappus bristles which are enlarged at the tips. The plants are also found in different habitats, M. tysonii known from above 2500 ft., while M. wedelii is a plant of the wet lowlands.

MIKANIA AMBLYOLEPIS Robinson, Contrib. Gray Herb. 61: 11. 1920.

Type: "Buenavista, east of Since, Bolivar, Colombia", Pennell 4002 GH! (holotype), K!, MO!, NY!, US!

M. panamensis Robinson, Contrib. Gray Herb. 104: 41. 1934.

Type: "Canal Zone, Panama", Pittier 2191 US! (holotype), GH! (photo & fragments).

Mikania amblyolepis is a somewhat herbaceous to succulent slender twiner that, until recently, was thought to be only known from the type material collected in Bolivar, Colombia. It is easily identified by its obovate involucre with rounded, fringed apices; dark, globular glands; and short incurved pubescence. The glands and pubescence are also present on vegetative parts. Pappus bristles are slightly to distinctly thickened at the tips. The inflorescence appears to be an elongated panicle of up to 6 cm in length; however, this elongated look mostly is imparted by the lack of leaves on the type. It is noteworthy that most of the dried specimens of this species either lack leaves altogether or possess leaves that are abnormal in shape, not pressed flat, wrinkled, or otherwise distorted. This is due to the apparent soft nature of the leaves, which wilt or abscise prior to pressing and drying. The ultimate segments of the inflorescence are corymbose. In examining and comparing the types of this plant with that of M. panamensis no differences could be detected, other than the lack of leaves on the type of M. amblyolepis. It also is significant that M. panamensis was named from a relatively immature specimen from the Canal Zone, Panama. After considering all the information, there can be little doubt that these plants are conspecific.

Of interest is Matuda 2703 from Chiapas, Mexico, which agrees with Mikania amblyolepis in all essentials. It is likely that this species may turn up in most of Pacific Central America.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED: COLOMBIA: Atlantico: Puerto Colombia, January, 1932, Bro. Paul 815 (F, GH); Bolivar: Los Volcanes, near Turbaco, 200-300 m, November 12, 1926, Killip & Smith 14443 (F, GH, MO, NY, US); Magdalena: Hoya del Rio Cesar, Hoya del Rio Azucarbuena, region El Callao, 200 m, October 29, 1959, Cuatrecasas & Romero 24881 (US); MEXICO: Chiapas: Las Garzas, Aczpetagua, January, 1939, E. Matuda 2704 (GH, MICH, NY, US); PANAMA: Canal Zone: Balboa, weedy field, November 1923-January 1924, Standley 25634, 29297, & 30879 (all US); Cocle: Aguadulce, Playa Coleta, December 28, 1970, McDaniel & Cook 14757\* (FSU, MCD); Darien: Rio Sabana, ca 4 mi. above Santa Fe, 25 m, February 16, 1967, J. A. Duke 10214 (MO); Rio Chico, from Yaviza at junction with Rio Chucunaque to ca 1 h4. by outboard from junction, December 19, 1966, Burch, Oliver, & Solis 1084 (F, GH, MO, NY, UC, US); Woods, 2 mi. east of Santa Fe, July 16, 1966, Tyson, Dwyer, Blum, & Duke 4820 (MO); 0-4 mi. up R. Sabana from Santa Fe, September 30, 1961, J. A. Duke 4163 (MO); Panama: Sabanas near Chepo, 30 m, January 20, 1935, Hunter & Allen 50 (BR, F, MO, NY); San Blas: Sasardi, 20 m, February 14, 1967, J. A. Duke 10130 (MO); Eslogandi, 200 m, February 14, 1967, J. A. Duke 10194 (MO).

#### LITERATURE CITED

- King, R. M. and H. Robinson. 1974. Studies in the Eupatorieae (Asteraceae). CXXIII. Phytologia. 28:3. 272-279.
- Robinson, B. L. 1934. Mikania scandens and Near Relatives. Contrib. Gray Herb. 104: 55-71.